

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 20 to 27 with the following amended paragraph:

Particularly preferably, the polyethylene or the ethylene copolymer used is obtained by metallocene catalysis and has a density of at most  $0.92 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . With regard to the composition of these preferred polymers, and in particular their physical characteristics and the nature of the comonomers, ~~Patent Application EP 0,702,032 A2~~, U.S. Patent No. 5,883,145, which also describes their treatment by crosslinking and expansion, is incorporated here by way of reference.